

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. – 24. (Cancelled).

1 25. (Currently Amended) A pressure sensitive label for application to a battery having
2 a cylindrical case with opposite end caps, said label having a first dimension measured in a first
3 direction between side edges and a second dimension measured in a second direction between
4 end edges, said first dimension being such as to accommodate the wrapping of said label around
5 the cylindrical case of said battery with the side edges of said label in an overlapping
6 relationship, said second dimension being such as to accommodate the overlapping of the end
7 caps of said battery by the end edges of said label, said label comprising a composite of multiple
8 layers including:

9 a polymeric film having a thickness of between about 0.01 to 0.05mm and a
10 stiffness in one of said directions of between about 1 to 20 grams, said
11 film **being dimensionally stable at temperatures below having** an onset
12 shrinkage temperature of at least about 75°C and being thermally
13 shrinkable only in said first direction with accompanying growth in said
14 second direction when heated to temperatures at or above said onset
15 shrinkage temperature;

16 indicia interposed between adjacent layers of said label, said indicia being
17 visible through a top surface layer of said label; and
18 a pressure sensitive adhesive defining the bottom surface of said label and
19 comprising another of said layers.

1 26. (Cancelled)

1 27. (Previously Amended) The label of claim 25 wherein said film is polystyrene.

1 28. (Previously Amended) The label of claim 25 wherein said film is selected from

2 the group consisting of polystyrene, polypropylene, polyethylene and polyester.

1 29. (Cancelled)

1 30. (Previously Amended) The label of claim 25 wherein the thickness of said film is

2 between about 0.02 to 0.04 mm.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The label of claim 30 wherein the thickness of said film is

2 about 0.03mm.

1 32. (Cancelled)

1 33. (Previously Amended) The label as claimed in claim 25 wherein said stiffness is

2 between about 2 to 10 grams.

1 34. (Previously Amended) The label of claim 25 wherein said indicia is printed on an

2 upper surface of said film.

1 35. (Previously Presented) The label of claim 34 wherein said pressure sensitive

2 adhesive is applied to a lower surface of said film.

1 36. (Previously Presented) The label of claims 34 or 35 wherein said indicia is

2 covered by a transparent second film adhered to said indicia by a second layer of pressure

3 sensitive adhesive.

1 37. (Previously Presented) The label of claim 36 wherein said second film is
2 thermally shrinkable only in said first direction with accompanying growth in said second
3 direction at temperatures above said onset temperature.

1 38. (Previously Presented) The label of claim 36 wherein said first mentioned film
2 and said second film are formed from the same polymeric material.

1 39. (Previously Presented) The label of claim 36 wherein the thickness of said first
2 mentioned film is greater than the thickness of said second film.

1 40. (Previously Amended) The label of claim 25 further comprising an opaque layer
2 adhered to the upper surface of said pressure sensitive adhesive, said film being adhered to said
3 opaque layer by means of a transparent second pressure sensitive adhesive layer, with said
4 indicia being interposed between said opaque layer and said film.

1 41. (Previously Presented) The label of claim 40 wherein said indicia is printed on a
2 top surface of said opaque later.

1 42. (Previously Presented) The label of claim 40 wherein said indicia is printed on a
2 bottom surface of said film.

1 43. (Previously Amended) The label of claim 25 wherein said film comprises the top
2 layer of said label.

1 44. (Previously Amended) The label of claim 25 wherein said indicia is printed on a
2 top surface of said film, and wherein said indicia is covered by a transparent protective coating
3 comprising the top layer of said label.

1 45. (Previously Amended) The pressure sensitive label of claim 25 wherein said
2 polymeric film has a relatively low residual shrink force as compared to that effecting primary
3 shrinkage during label application.

1 46. (Previously Presented) The pressure sensitive label of claim 45 wherein said
2 polymeric film undergoes residual shrinkage of less than about 2% when heated to temperatures
3 below said onset temperature.